

List of Acronyms

AA	NOAA Assistant Administrator for Fisheries (Bill Hogarth).
ABC	Acceptable biological catch: refers to the range of estimated allowable catch for a species or species group, set each year.
ACL	Annual catch limit
AM	Accountability measures, related to the implementation of ACLs to prevent overfishing.
APA	Administrative Procedure Act
ATCA	Atlantic Tunas Convention Act
BFT	Atlantic bluefin tuna: the subspecies of bluefin tuna, <i>Thunnus thynnus thynnus</i> , or a part thereof, that occurs in the Atlantic Ocean.
BO	Biological Opinion: the product of a formal section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act.
BSD	ICCAT bluefin tuna statistical document
CE	Categorical Exclusion: A finding under the National Environmental Policy Act that an action is of a sort for which no environmental impact analysis is required.
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality: the Federal Executive branch entity charged with issuing interpretation and guidance on the National Environmental Policy Act.
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CPE	Comment Period Ends (short-hand for signifying the end of mandatory public comment periods).
CPUE	Catch per unit effort (fishery catch rate)
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Plan
DAH	Estimated domestic annual harvest

DAP	Estimated domestic annual processing: an estimate of the fishery product processing capacity in a given fishery. It is generally equal to or less than the DAH (but there may be latent capacity).
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement: a requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act.
DOC	U.S. Department of Commerce
DOC-GC	Department of Commerce Office of General Counsel
DOI	U.S. Department of the Interior
DOS	U.S. Department of State
DQA	Data Quality Act, an older term which is more properly known as the Information Quality Act (IQA).
EA	Environmental Assessment: a preliminary analysis conducted to determine whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement: a requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act.
EO	Executive Order
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: under current regulations, all DEISs and EISs must be filed with the EPA. EPA has special review status, and publishes a notice of document availability for public comment, triggering the start of mandatory minimum comment and cooling off periods.
ESA	Endangered Species Act
EY	Equilibrium yield
F	Another abbreviation for the NOAA Assistant Administrator (AA) for Fisheries (<i>i.e.</i> , Bill Hogarth). The “F” abbreviation is used in the title of memos required to accompany decision packages on FMPs, amendments, and rules. Also, refers to Fishing mortality rate, rate at which fish are harvested or killed each year.
FACA	Federal Advisory Committee Act

FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement: a requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act.
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
FLSA	Fair Labor Standards Act
FMAT	Fishery Management Action Team: an interdisciplinary group of core agency and council staff, and others as necessary, that work on a particular action from the beginning.
FMP	Fishery Management Plan: a requirement of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Environmental Impact: a provision under the National Environmental Policy Act that allows an agency to forego preparation of an Environmental Impact statement.
FR	Federal Register
FRFA	Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis: a requirement of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: The designated consultation agency for certain species listed under the Endangered Species Act.
GC	NOAA General Counsel
GCF	NOAA Office of General Counsel for Fisheries in Silver Spring
GSA	General Services Administration
HC	Office of Habitat Conservation, NOAA Fisheries Service
HQS	Headquarters Staff: Staff in Headquarters who will be expected to review and/or clear an action.
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
IQA	Information Quality Act
IRFA	Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis: a requirement of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

JVP	Joint venture processing
M	Natural Mortality: background level of mortality due to predation, disease, <i>etc.</i> (link to ecosystem).
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act
MPRSA	Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act
MSA	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
MSY	Maximum sustainable yield: largest average catch that can be continuously taken from a stock under constant environmental conditions.
NAO	NOAA Administrative Order
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent: a provision of the National Environmental Policy Act
OFR	Office of the Federal Register
OGs	Operational Guidelines
OLE	NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
OMB	White House Office of Management and Budget
OPM	Office of Personnel Management
OSF	Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NOAA Fisheries Service, in Silver Spring
OSP/PPI	NOAA Office of Strategic Planning/Program Planning and Integration: this is NOAA's NEPA Office, currently vested with responsibility to sign off on EISs.
OY	Optimum Yield: amount of catch that provides the greatest overall long-term benefit to society (including economic, social, and biological considerations).
PA	Privacy Act

PBO	Preliminary Biological Opinion: a provision under the Endangered Species Act.
PMP	Preliminary FMP
PR	Office of Protected Resources, NOAA Fisheries Service
PRA	Paper Work Reduction Act
PREE	Preliminary Regulatory Economic Evaluation: an analysis required by NOAA Economic Analysis guidelines for complying with the Regulatory Flexibility Act.
RA	Regional Administrator for NOAA Fisheries Service
Regs Unit	A division within the NOAA Fisheries Office of Sustainable Fisheries that prepares documents for submission to the Federal Register.
RFA	Regulatory Flexibility Act
RIR	Regulatory Impact Review: a cost-benefit analysis required by NOAA Fisheries to comply with the requirements of Executive Order 12866.
ROA	Regional Operating Agreement: A requirement under the Operational Guidelines pursuant to which each region/Council pair will establish a formalized agreement on roles and responsibilities necessary to conform to the Operational Guidelines.
ROD	Record of Decision: A requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act.
RSP	NOAA Fisheries Service Regulatory Streamlining Project
SBA	Small Business Administration: an agency that has special status under the Regulatory Flexibility Act.
SF	Another name for the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NOAA Fisheries Service.
SPR	Spawning potential ratio
TAC	Total allowable catch
TALFF	Total allowable level of foreign fishing
USCG	United States Coast Guard